

Please do not underestimate the importance of Broadband to rural areas. In our remote settings access to museums, libraries, specialized shopping facilities, educational resources, and government outlets like your own is limited, so Broadband is EVEN MORE important than in suburban/urban areas.

Yet cable and other broadband venues are not available in the most rural areas. Alternatives such as two way satellite Internet are very expensive.

I understand that the FCC doesn't have a mandate to bring communications utilities to every citizen, but rather must maintain orderly regulation of those that exist. However, I hope that your guiding principles as an agency allows you to weigh narrower interests (ie. amateur radio) against much broader interests (ie. the vitality of rural america).

Thank you,
Doug McVicar